



OKEHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

On the Health
of the District
for the Year
1967

Presented by

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Annual Report on the Health of the District, during 1967

MR. CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS,

I beg to present herewith, the Annual Report of the Health of the District during 1967, drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 1/68 dated January, 1968. Included in the Report is the report of your Chief Public Health Inspector.

The estimated population mid-year was 11,340, that is a drop of 50 compared with 1966. The standardised Birth Rate of 17.3 per 1,000 population is lower than last year's (17.8) but slightly higher than the National Rate of 17.2. However, the Standardised Death Rate of 10.9 per 1,000 population remains the same as last year's and lower than the National Rate of 11.2. The majority of deaths (68 out of 155) were due to cardio-vascular diseases.

There was a low incidence of Infectious Diseases, measles being the most prevalent, with no notifications in respect of poliomyelitis, diphtheria, food poisoning and tuberculosis. The latter for the first time I notice on going through records as far back as I have available, i.e. to 1891.

It has been unfortunate that during the year there has been a serious drop in the number of inspections of food premises, etc., due to (a) the increasing duties of the additional Public Health Inspector at the beginning of the year in connection with Meat Inspection, particularly at the Exbourne Abattoir, before the appointment of Mr. Sharkey as Meat Inspector, (b) the resignation of Mr. Higgins as additional Public Health Inspector on July 1st, and the failure to obtain a replacement by the end of the year. The routine and increasing number of statutory public health duties have inevitably suffered. It is hoped that this will be rectified early in 1968.

It was disappointing that the North Devon Water Board (early in 1968) found the cost of extending main water to Gidleigh Village prohibitive, although pressed to do so on public health grounds after a full report was sent by your Medical Officer.

A full report being submitted to the Ministry at the end of the year on the urgent need on Public Health grounds for the Sewage Disposal scheme at Throwleigh to go ahead, it is hoped that this may be sanctioned by them and work started early in 1968. I hope that the Sewage Disposal scheme for South Tawton, S. Zeal, Sticklepath and Belstone may be started on completion of the work at Throwleigh.

You will notice the tremendous increase in the number of Meat Inspections, together with extra staff appointed to work at Hatherleigh Abattoir, at the end of the year. This new Abattoir, which started on a small scale at first in September, and extensions to the existing one at Exbourne, entailed considerable extra work for your Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Lethbridge, both in the preliminary planning and now in the day to day running. I draw your attention to the figures for meat inspection in 1967 on pages 15 & 17 which show a four fold increase on the already considerable figures for 1966. They also emphasise the great importance to the whole district of this rural industry and may help to halt the depopulation (particularly of young wage earning adults), of your rural area, which was also bemoaned in the Medical Officer of Health's Report for 1936! (and in 1895's Report the exodus of young people was deplored!)

Finally, a worsening water shortage recurs with regularity each year, this was remarked upon in the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report 1933, before the majority of homes and farms had piped supplies!

I am, Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

MARY E. BUDDING,

Medical Officer of Health.



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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

MARY E. BUDDING, M.B., B.Ch., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

L. E. LETHBRIDGE, M.I.P.H.E., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

L. B. HIGGINS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned 30th June, 1967)

Public Health Inspector and Senior Meat Inspector

T. BURDUS

Senior Authorised Meat Inspector

T. McMILLAN

Authorised Meat Inspectors

M. BOOTH J. SHARKEY

Clerk to the Department

Miss M. SAMPSON

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health

Miss E. M. HAMBLBY, S.R.N. (Part-time)
(D.C.C. Clinic, 70 Plymouth Road, Tavistock)
Tavistock 2617

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

The following members of the Council served on the Public Health and Housing Committee during the year.

Chairman: Mr. S. P. S. PERKIN

MR. C. T. P. ABELL	MR. R. C. LEVENTHORPE
MR. E. R. BADCOCK	MR. E. G. T. LOWE
MR. G. BENNETT	MR. J. MORRIS
LT.COL. V. W. CALMADY-HAMLYN	MR. C. J. PETHERICK
MR. P. CLEVERDON	MR. D. C. PHILIP
MR. F. DENNIS	MRS. R. A. RATTENBURY
MR. F. GERRARD	MR. J. I. REDDAWAY
MRS. M. M. HAMPSON	MR. W. J. REED
MR. J. HILL	AIR COMMODORE SIR PERCY SMYTH- OSBOURNE
MR. W. HORRELL	MR. F. G. UNDERHILL
MAJOR W. R. A. KETTLE	MR. J. E. B. WELLS
COL. H. C. L. KINGSFORD- LETHBRIDGE	MR. F. C. WESTERN
MR. A. J. KNAPMAN	MR. W. W. WESTLAKE

SECTION "A"

General Statistics

Area (Statute acres)	132,516
Population – 1951 Census	12,629
Population – 1961 Census	11,994
Estimated mid-year population – 1967 ...	11,340
Parishes	27
Number of inhabited dwellings	4,003
Rateable value	£167,219
Product of the Penny Rate	£935. 3s. 7d.
Loan Debt	£796,353

Vital Statistics

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	80	62	142
Illegitimate	7	4	11
			<hr/> 153

DEATHS	77	78	155
POPULATION			

Year	Mid-year Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate
1963	11,270	15.8	15.0
1964	11,470	16.3	12.5
1965	11,470	14.0	14.2
1966	11,390	13.9	13.5
1967	11,340	13.5	13.7

LIVE BIRTHS	England and Wales
Number	153
Rate per 1,000 population	13.5
Standardised Birth Rate... ..	17.3

ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS (per cent of total births)	7%
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STILL BIRTHS	
Number	3
Rate per 1,000 total live and still- births	19
	14.8

TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS	156
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INFANT DEATHS (deaths under one year)	1
---	---

INFANT MORTALITY RATES	
Infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	6.5
	18.3

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	7
---	---

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—
---	---

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE	
(deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	—
	12.5

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE
(deaths under 1 week per 1,000
total live births)

— 10.8

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE
(still births and deaths under 1
week combined per 1,000 total
live and still births)

19 25.4

MATERNAL MORTALITY
(including abortion)

Number of deaths Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-
births —

DEATHS

Number of deaths 155
Crude death rate per 1,000 popu-
lation 13.7 11.7
Standardised death rate 10.9

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	2
Cancer	...	...	...	...	27
Vascular diseases of nervous system	...	...	...	...	18
Coronary Disease	...	...	...	...	33
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	7
Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	20
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	8
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	11
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	9
Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	1
Ulcers of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	10
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	1
All other accidents	...	...	...	...	5
Suicide	...	...	...	...	1

AGE AT DEATH TABLE							Male	Female
under 4 weeks	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4 weeks and under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
1—	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5—	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
15—	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
25—	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
35—	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
45—	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
55—	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	10
65—	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	17
75 and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	47
TOTAL							77	78

SECTION "B"

General Provision of Health Services

1. Hospitals

There are two hospitals in the town, the Memorial Hospital (including maternity beds) and the Castle Hospital (for chronic sick and Geriatric cases). Both of these serve the town and also the large rural area outside the town.

2. County Council Health Services

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council provides the following services based largely on the Okehampton Health Centre (Okehampton 731) in the grounds of the Memorial Hospital, also providing accommodation for the General Practitioners in the town:

Domiciliary Midwifery, Home Nursing, Health Visitors, supervisory care of expectant and nursing mothers and children under five, School Medical Service, Home Help Services, Chiropody, Occupation Therapy, Speech Therapy, Dental service for children up to school leaving age, expectant and nursing mothers; Mental Health Service, Vaccination and immunisation procedures. A Cervical Cytology Clinic for early detection of cervical cancer was started during 1967.

The Ambulance Service is run under delegated powers by the St. John's Ambulance Brigade, providing a 24 hour cover for the whole district.

3. Meals on Wheels

A meals on wheels service is organised from Chagford by the W.R.V.S. by Mrs. Young, serving the Chagford area (including South Zeal, Sticklepath, Throwleigh & Whiddon Down when required). It is hoped to start a service in Hatherleigh, and other outlying parishes if Okehampton Borough W.R.V.S. could have better kitchen facilities.

4. War Memorial Hospital

During the year, 87 babies were born in the hospital:

Okehampton Borough	...	...	...	29
Okehampton Rural District	...	...	...	51
Other Districts	...	...	...	7
				—
				87
				==

Thirty-three per cent of the total births which occurred in the Okehampton Rural District took place in the War Memorial Hospital.

5. Laboratory Services

Bacteriological examinations of specimens and of samples of milk, water ice-cream, etc., are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at Exeter, and any chemical analyses by the Public Analyst at Exeter.

6. Health Centre, Okehampton

In addition to the Services mentioned in 2 above, the Orthopaedic Clinic is held each Monday on the premises.

7. Mass Radiography Unit

The Unit continues to visit every other week, as advertised in the local press. 396 persons attended for Chest X-rays as follows:

G. P. Referrals	167
Tuberculin Positive Reactors	21
Contacts to Tuberculin Positive Reactors	3
Students	5
Hospital Staff	3
Schools Staff	27
General Public	169
Chest Clinic Follow-ups	1
	<hr/>
	396
	<hr/>

No cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis was found, and the 34 abnormalities discovered were as follows:

DEFECTS ON X-RAY			
	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis – under observation	1	1	2
Tuberculosis – healed	2	8	10
Cardio-Vascular disease – acquired	1	1	2
Pulmonary infections, including all types of Pneumonia and Fungus infections	1	–	1
Bronchitis and Emphysema	5	1	6
Abnormalities of the diaphragm and Oesophagus	–	1	1
Other abnormalities of no clinical significance	6	5	11
Failed to attend for further X-rays or clinical examination	–	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS	16	18	34
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

SECTION “C”

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

During a period of drought in the summer the supply was supplemented by pumping raw water from Meldon Lake to the treatment works. I was entirely satisfied with the quality of this supply.

Mr. E. A. Robb, the Chief Engineer of the North Devon Water Board, has supplied the following information on his Board’s progress during the year:

“The supply for this area is derived from an intake on the West Okement River, with subsequent treatment at Prewley Works, and also from wells at Taw Marsh with subsequent treatment at Belstone Works. During the summer when the available yield from the West Okement was inadequate, it was necessary to pump additional raw water from Meldon Lake to the treatment works at Prewley to cope with the demand in the area.

The development of this additional source enabled the supply to be maintained at all times. The chemical and bacteriological samples of the Meldon source, as with all the Board’s permanent sources, were satisfactory at all times.

The rate of mainlaying has slowed down generally throughout the Board’s area, but extensions have been provided where requested for housing development and new connections given to additional properties”.

(a table relating to the water supplies in each of the district’s twenty-seven parishes, will be found attached to the inner back cover of this Report).

Analysis of Water Supplies (Private and Public)

The following samples were taken by your Public Health Inspectors during the year:

	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
Bacteriological examination of water	35	19	16
Chemical examination of water	1	1	—

The Council maintained the policy that when considering applications for Improvement Grants under the Housing Acts, any water supply, not on Public mains, was to be proved bacteriologically sound by the Public Health Department, before grant aid could be proceeded with. In this connection, seven samples were obtained from five properties. At four of the properties initial samples were satisfactory, and remedial measures taken, recommended by the Chief Public Health Inspector, at the other property, resulted in satisfactory analysis. Two supplies to two small groups of Council houses were also proved to be bacteriologically sound, but two private properties sampled produced unsatisfactory results and these were being dealt with. A sample was obtained from another group of Council houses and submitted for chemical and bacteriological analyses. The sample indicated plumbo solvency, the Council were advised to remove all lead pipes from the houses and the work was to be put in hand. Although these houses were at a lower level than a tip, some distance away, there was nothing in the analyses which pointed to anything detrimental from it.

Reference should be made to a private water supply to a number of properties at Gidleigh, which although sampled some twenty-two times during the year produced a history of good and bad samples, only eleven being regarded as satisfactory. An opinion had been expressed that the owner was under no legal obligation to provide a wholesome supply, and the case was presented to the North Devon Water Board in the form of a report, requesting that a mains supply be considered, in view of all the circumstances. The Board made extensive investigations but when their Engineer's report was submitted to them the cost was regarded as prohibitive. This was reported to the Council who suggested to the Board that the householders concerned might be canvassed with a view to agreeing to make a contribution to the cost themselves. The result of this is not yet known, but in the meantime, householders were advised to boil all water before use for drinking and domestic purposes.

Sewerage and Drainage

1. Towns, Villages and hamlets in the Rural District for which satisfactory and adequate systems have been provided, with dates of completion.

BRATTON CLOVELLY	...	1963	
BRIDESTOWE	...	1938	
CHAGFORD	...	1961	
CROCKERNWELL	...	1954	
DREWSTEIGNTON	...	1965	
EXBOURNE	...	1958	
FOLLY GATE	...	1963	
HATHERLEIGH	...	1963	
MONKOKEHAMPTON	...	1955	
NORTHLEW	...	1959	
NORTH TAWTON	...	1962	
SAMPFORD CHAPPLE	...	1964	
SAMPFORD COURTENAY		1961	
SANDY PARK	...	1951	
SOURTON	...	1960	
SOUTH TAWTON AND SOUTH ZEAL	...	1934	with subsequent extensions and additions to disposal works in 1955.
SPREYTON	...	1966	
STICKLEPATH (SOUTH)		1960	
WHIDDON DOWN	...	1962	

2. Villages in respect of which work has commenced.

MEETH	Negotiations for the carrying out of this scheme were finalised early in the year and a figure of £15,586. 6s. 0d. was accepted. Works commenced on 18th April and the Contract was nearing completion at the end of the year.
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3. Villages with main water available for which schemes have been prepared or are in course of preparation.

BELSTONE, STICKLEPATH, SOUTH ZEAL AND SOUTH TAWTON	The preparation of the combined scheme by the Consulting Engineers is well in hand and the Council have agreed to adopt the Pasveer Oxidation Ditch means of disposal for the new sewage disposal works.
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HIGHAMPTON	The outline scheme for the Village has been prepared and negotiations for the Sewage Disposal Site were proceeding.
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JACOBSTOWE	The outline scheme for the village has been prepared but agreement with District Valuer on sale price of land for sewage disposal works is still not finalised.
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BROADWOODKELLY ...	Planning approval has been received for the disposal works site.
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THROWLEIGH	Complete scheme prepared by Consulting Engineers forwarded to Ministry for approval to proceed, but deferred.
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BRIDESTOWE	Consulting Engineers presented a report on the estimated future needs of this village.
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IDDESLEIGH	The Council decided that the Consulting Engineers be instructed to submit a report and an approximate estimate of the cost of a scheme for this village.
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SAMPFORD COURTENAY STATION AREA	The Chief Public Health Inspector prepared a report on a scheme to sewer this area at an estimated cost of £11,000. but it was decided to defer it for the time being.
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Sewerage (General)

In the main, all sewage works in the district produced satisfactory samples obtained and analysed by the Devon and Cornwall River Authorities, but where unsatisfactory samples were reported, steps were taken to investigate causes of failures.

Anti-Flooding Schemes, Bridestowe

Works carried out have proved satisfactory during periods of excessive rain at times in the year, but a shoal in Crandford Brook on the West of the village was cleared.

NORTH TAWTON

Investigations were proceeding into a complaint of flooding at Lakeway, North Street, North Tawton.

Rodent Control

Regular attention was given to Council refuse tips, sewage works and outfalls, although there was no unusual degree of infestation.

During the Spring and Autumn, sewers were treated at South Tawton, South Zeal, Hatherleigh, North Tawton and Sandy Park, and very few takes were reported. It is interesting to note that very few complaints were received of rat infestation from owners of private property, and a reason for this could be the readiness on the part of occupiers to deal with any infestations themselves or to use private service firms.

Refuse Collection

The commencement of a new service of Refuse Collection by the Council's own labour and vehicles commenced on 2nd January, 1967. As the year progressed it became clear that this new approach to refuse collection and disposal gave the public a more efficient and satisfactory service, and a greater control over the condition and appearance of refuse tips was possible. Every opportunity was taken of seeking materials from road widening schemes and the like for tip covering and hardcore approaches to tip faces. As free tipping facilities were provided for these types of materials the Chief Public Health Inspector was also able to stockpile large quantities for future use. Consideration was also given by the Council to the possibility of providing a weekly collection throughout the whole district and a report was prepared by the Chief Public Health Inspector. In view of the costs involved and bearing in mind the actual need and general economic situation it was decided not to materially alter the present scheme for the time being.

With the new vehicles more direct attention was given to the scavenging of lay-bys on trunk and classified roads and earlier in the year a further seventeen collection points gave added facilities at some of the larger lay-bys. In addition to this an arrangement was entered into with the Dartmoor National Park Committee for the provision of litter bins at Chagford and Belstone in areas of the National Park with a weekly collection during the holiday months.

During the year the Council considered a report from the Chief Public Health Inspector who gave them details, in a condensed form, of the Report of the Working Party, appointed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in May, 1963 to examine the facts of refuse collection. The Council decided that the present policies and systems be continued without alteration.

Inspection of the District and Public Health Services

The number of complaints regarding Public Health matters received, recorded and dealt with was 39.

The following table sets out the inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

<i>Type of Premises</i>				<i>Number of Inspections</i>	<i>Number of Intimation Notices Served</i>	<i>Number of Intimation Notices Complied with</i>
Houses inspected	...	...	...	57	22	23
Reinspections	...	...	...	106	—	—
Premises other than those men- tioned below	...	...	...	59	9	7
Food Premises	...	...	...	128	25	5
Refuse Disposal and Scavenging				352	—	—
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	80	—	—
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	24	—	—
Water Supplies	...	...	...	58	1	1
Sewerage and Drainage			...	450	5	5
Rivers and Streams	...	...	...	24	—	—
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	21	—	—
Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yard	...	...	...	267	12	11
Rodent Control	...	...	...	15	3	3
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	43	3	3
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	...	...	...	21	—	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	77	—	—
				1 782	80	58

Factories Act

Tables relating to these Acts will be found later on in the Report on pages 19, 20 and 21.

SECTION “D”

Housing

Individual Unfit Houses – Year ended 31st December, 1967

				<i>Number of Persons Houses Displaced</i>	
HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS					
1. Demolition and Closing Orders Housing Act, 1957.					
(a)	Houses demolished as a result of formal procedure under Section 17 (1) or informally ...			2	5
(b)	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health			—	—
(c)	Houses, or parts of houses closed under Section (4) and 18 (1).			4	7

2. REPAIRS	
Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the year as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing Acts. ...	48
(Included in this number are 22 houses improved by the aid of Standard Improvements Grants and 3 by Discretionary Improvement grants.	

I am indebted to Mr. L. G. Bailey for the following information:

Town and Country Planning, 1962

Applications for development under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Acts, 1947/62, the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations, 1960, the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 and Building Regulations, 1965, have been received over the past twelve months as follows:

Alterations and Conversions	...	...	...	...	155
Farm Buildings 9	...	...	...	...	118
Advertisement signs	...	...	...	...	101
Public Works	...	...	...	...	29
New Dwellings	...	...	...	...	106
Caravan Sites	...	...	...	...	11
					<hr/>
				TOTAL	... 520
					<hr/>

Of the above total, 54 applications have been refused.

Private Enterprise

Private Enterprise produced 14 new houses during the year.

Improvement Grants

The number of applications for Improvement Grants under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1949, Section 30 of the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958; and the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, totals 732. Of this total 453 have received approval, 84 have been disapproved, and 195 have been considered in outline and have either been withdrawn, or formal applications are awaited.

New Council Houses

8 new Council Houses were completed at Bratton Clovelly, and 29 of the proposed 40 at South Zeal were completed and occupied.

COUNCIL HOUSES IN THE RURAL DISTRICT

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Situation</i>	<i>No. of Dwellings</i>	<i>Total No. in Parish</i>
BEAWORTHY ...	Black Hill	2	
	Patchacott	2	4
BELSTONE	Tor Down	6	6
BONDLEIGH	Village	4	4
BRATTON CLOVELLY	Beech Cottages	3	
	Church Meadow	8	11
BRIDESTOWE	Princess Elizabeth Terrace	8	
	Brid Close	4	12
BROADWOODKELLY ...	The Villas	4	
	Splatt	1	5
CHAGFORD	Dennis Park	33	
	Biera View	8	
	Orchard Meadow	35	
	New Street	4	80
DREWSTEIGNTON ...	Lamb's Park	4	
	Knowle Lane	4	
	Turnpike Road, Whiddon Down	4	
	Exeter Road, Whiddon Down	4	16
EXBOURNE	Cawsand View	2	
	The Shrubbery	6	8
GERMANSWEEK	—	—	—
GIDLEIGH	—	—	—
HATHERLEIGH	Moor View Terrace	12	
	Higher Street	6	
	Normandy Place	4	
	Claremont Place	20	42
HIGHAMPTON	High View	2	2
IDDESLEIGH	Winkleigh View	4	4
INWARDLEIGH	Misdon Cottages, Folly Gate	6	
	New Road, Folly Gate ...	23	29
JACOBSTOWE	—	—	—
MEETH	Station Road	10	10
MONKOKEHAMPTON ...	East View	2	2
NORTHLEW	Costloes	4	
WITH ASHBURY	Moor View	6	10
NORTH TAWTON	Barton Hill	16	
	Fore Street	8	
	Essington – Arundell Road	20	
	Gowmans	14	
	North Street	1	59
OKEHAMPTON	Chichacott	4	
HAMLETS	Peacewater	2	6
SAMPFORD	Four Acres	4	
COURTENAY	Station View	4	
	Cross Hill, Tongue End	2	
	Queens Haye, Sticklepath	6	16

Parish			Situation			No. of Dwellings	Total No. in Parish
SOURTON	Broad View	4	16
			Windard Terrace		...	6	
			Corn Ridge View, Sourton Down	...	...	6
SOUTH TAWTON	...		Hill Crest	8	81
			Cross Park, South Zeal	...	...	10
			The Croft, South Zeal	...	...	24
			Hillfield, South Zeal	...	...	29
			Barn Close, Whiddon Down	...	...	10
SPREYTON	Cross Meadow	6	10
			Sprayton Close	...	...	4
THROWLEIGH	...		Clampitts	6	8
			Higher Hay	...	...	2
			TOTAL		441

SECTION "E"

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Food Premises

The number of food premises classified as within the scope of the Food Hygiene Regulations is as follows:

Hotels, Public Houses and Inns	...	...	...	...	49
Schools and other Canteens	...	...	...	...	15
Cafes, Restaurants and Guest Houses	...	...	...	...	18
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	39
Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	12
Bed and Breakfast premises	...	...	...	...	29
Bakeries	...	...	...	...	9
					171

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, is:

Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	51
Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted or pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale						10

Disposal of Condemned Food

Unsound meat from slaughterhouses continued to be sent to manufacturers of fertilizers and at the larger slaughterhouses a very regular transport service for removal was provided. The small quantity of unsound canned food surrendered as unfit for human consumption was disposed of at Refuse Tips.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. (Food Hygiene Regulations)

Up to the middle of the year regular visits were paid to food premises but these were only possible, where complaints were received, after this. This will account for the number of informal notices given to occupiers of food premises which were not complied with. Whilst there is little call for special mention in this respect, it is considered that the knowledge that a Public Health Inspector does make inspections as frequently as possible is a likely means of keeping properties in satisfactory condition.

In one case, however, a complaint revealed conditions which were most unsatisfactory, and whilst it was found they were put right within twenty-four hours, the Chief Public Health Inspector decided to issue a written warning as to the future conduct of the premises.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, Etc.) Regulations, 1947-1952

The manufacture of ice cream on a small scale continued at a premises at Hatherleigh during the summer months. Inspections made of the conditions of manufacture and cleanliness gave no cause for complaint.

Ice Cream

TWO applications for registration of premises for the sale of ice cream were made, and approved by the Council.

Unsound Food

FIVE certificates were issued during the year resulting in 34 lb. of unsound meat being surrendered by the owners for disposal from places other than slaughterhouses.

Slaughterhouses

Annual licences were renewed to the owner/occupiers of two small slaughterhouses at Hatherleigh and South Zeal. In the case of the slaughterhouse at Exbourne, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food gave authority for a new licence because the premises had been materially extended in excess of one tenth of their previous capacity, but this was not issued because of the drainage position, which was unsatisfactory. The existing licence was however renewed and issued to Messrs. R., W., & B. Hayes & Co., Ltd., but it was not until the end of the year that drainage works were able to be put in hand because the necessary Planning approvals had not been received. Because of the extent of the output, an Authorised Meat Inspector was engaged full time on meat inspection at this slaughterhouse.

Work commenced early in the year on the construction of a new Abattoir at Hatherleigh, and after consultations with the operators, the meat inspectorial staff, consisting of a Public Health Inspector and two authorised meat inspectors, were appointed. The Abattoir came into production on 27th September, 1967, and the hours of slaughter agreed by the Council, were 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 6 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Saturdays. Up to the end of the year the output was considerably less than what had been anticipated.

The number of carcasses inspected in the private slaughterhouses of the Rural District was 84,899, the figures being made up as follow:

Bovines	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,600
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,111
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	...	...	...	65,271
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,917
							<hr/>
							84,899
							<hr/>

Compared with the figures of 19,492 for 1966, the increase was mainly due to the bigger output at Exbourne, but if, and when, the new abattoir at Hatherleigh reaches the output anticipated, the total in the future should be even larger.

The total weight of Meat and offal condemned was 25 tons, 19 cwts., 21 lbs. (8 tons, 11 cwts., 14 lbs. in 1966).

Details of the number of animals killed and inspected, and the number of carcasses, parts or organs condemned are set out in the table later in this report.

It may be noted that the Council have now achieved the statutory requirements of 100% Meat Inspection.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Twenty-five applications were received for licences, or renewal of licences, to slaughter or stun animals, and in all cases they were granted.

Knackers Yard (Hatherleigh)

Frequent inspections were made during the year and a completely new means of drainage disposal over land was installed. A case of anthrax was reported and your officers co-operated fully with those of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Police on precautionary measures taken.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The total number of registered premises at the end of the year were.

<i>Premises</i>		<i>Number of Persons employed</i>
Offices	13	62
Retail Shops	22	74
Wholesale Warehouses	1	4
Catering Establishments	4	29
	<hr/> 40	<hr/> 169
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		Males 97
		Females 72

21 inspections of these premises were carried out.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known) ...	1,441	1,159	6,111	65,271	10,917
Number inspected	1,441	1,159	6,111	65,271	10,917
<i>All diseases, except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>					
Whole carcasses Condemned ...	3	11	28	250	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	582	598	32	8,406	637
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ...	40·6%	52·54%	0·98%	13·28%	5·87%
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	283
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	2·59%
<i>Cysticercosis</i>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	1	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	1	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

SECTION "F"

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases

Tuberculosis

There were no new admissions to, or removals from, the Register which remains as at the end of 1966:

<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>	
<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>
13	13	1	—	26	1

Salmonella Dublin infection among calves was reported by the Divisional Veterinary Officer in 7 herds; these farms were visited and advised and no cases occurred among the farmers or farm workers' families.

Brucellosis

Notifications were received from the Divisional Veterinary Officer in the case of 6 herds, 9 cows were found to be positive reactors.

All farmers were co-operative and disposed of the animals infected. In only one case was a producer-retailer involved and this farmer obtained heat-treated milk for his customers while his herd was being investigated and before the reactors were sent for slaughter.

The Medical Practitioners of the area co-operated in informing me, on my suggestion, of any suspicious cases of Human Brucellosis. Three names were given to me and two of these proved to be positive.

It is hoped that the new classification of Notifiable Infectious Diseases will include Brucellosis, to assist in complete eradication which is at present being accepted well by farmers in the district on a voluntary basis.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED BY MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

			<i>Measles</i>		<i>Scarlet Fever</i>		<i>Acute Pneumonia</i>	
			<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
Under 1 year	...	...	2	1	—	—	—	—
1 —	...	...	8	5	—	—	—	—
2 —	...	...	5	11	—	—	—	—
3 —	...	...	7	10	—	—	—	—
4 —	...	...	7	7	—	—	—	—
5 — 9	...	...	54	40	2	4	—	—
10 — 14	...	...	3	5	—	—	—	—
15 — 24	...	...	2	2	—	—	—	—
25 +	...	...	1	1	—	—	2	3
Unknown	...	...	4	7	—	—	—	—
TOTAL			93	89	2	4	2	3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED BY SCHOOLS

<i>School</i>	<i>German Measles</i>		<i>Mumps</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Chicken Pox</i>
Exbourne C.P.	...	—	30	1	1
Sticklepath C.P.	...	10	—	6	10
Spreyton C.P.	...	—	—	7	—
TOTAL	...	10	30	14	11

Factories' Act, 1961

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspec- tions</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sec- tions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	31	13	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (ex- cluding Out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	31	13	1	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>by H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of Cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Sanitary Conveniences</i>					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable, or defective	5	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for the sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including out-work) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	5	1	—	—	—

3. OUT WORK (Sections 133 and 134).

<i>Nature of Work</i>	SECTION 133			SECTION 134		
	<i>Number of Out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>	<i>Number of cases of default in sending lists of Council</i>	<i>Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing Apparel ...	3	—	—	—	—	—
Knitting ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Glove Making ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

OKEHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT WATER SUPPLIES (1967)

PARISH	Whether the water supply of the area and its several parts has been satisfactory (a) in quality (b) in quantity	Where there is a piped supply, whether bacteriological examinations were made of the raw water and, where treatment is installed, of the water going into supply: if so, how many and the results obtained; the results of any chemical analyses	Where the waters are liable to have plumbosolvent action, the facts as to contamination by lead, including precautions taken, and number and results of analyses	Action in respect of any form of contamination	Particulars of the number of dwelling houses from public water mains (a) direct to the houses (b) by means of standpipes		
					No. of Dwellinghouses		
					Main	Standpipe	Total Population MainStandpipe
ASHBURY with NORTHLEW	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 2 samples taken – satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	171	—	513 —
BEAWORTHY	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	45	—	135 —
BELSTONE	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	98	—	294 —
BONDLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	35	—	105 —
BRATTON CLOVELLY	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	106	—	318 —
BRIDESTOWE	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	142	—	426 —
BROADWOOD KELLY	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	53	—	159 —
CHAGFORD	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 4 Samples taken – 2 Unsatisfactory from local supply used in emergency.	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	415	—	1,245 —
DREWS-TEIGNTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 1 Sample taken – Satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	140	—	420 —
EXBOURNE	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply Sample taken – Satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	109	—	327 —
GERMAN'S-WEEK	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	36	—	108 —
*GIDLEIGH	(a) Un-satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	No piped supply Private supply only	Nil	Nil	1	—	10 —
HATHERLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply Sample taken – Satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	354	—	1,062 —
HIGHAMPTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 1 Sample taken – Satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	51	—	153 —
IDDESLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	60	—	180 —
INWARDLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	107	—	321 —
JACOBSTOWE	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 1 Sample taken – Satisfactory	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	24	—	72 —
MEETH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	40	—	120 —
MONK-OKEHAMPTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	46	—	138 —
NORTH TAWTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply 7 Samples taken – 5 Unsatisfactory from local supply used in emergency	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	433	—	1,299 —
OKEHAMPTON HAMLETS	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	23	—	69 —
SAMPFORD COURTENAY	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	158	—	474 —
SOURTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	100	—	300 —
SOUTH TAWTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	390	—	1,170 —
SPREYTON	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	93	—	279 —
THROWLEIGH	(a) Satisfactory (b) Satisfactory	Piped supply	N.D.W.B.	N.D.W.B.	58	—	174 —

Samples were taken from the sources of supply as follows:
BELSTONE: 22 samples taken – 1 Unsatisfactory
WEST OKEMENT: 36 samples taken – 2 Unsatisfactory

